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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/756,120	01/09/2001	Tetsuro Motoyama	198775US-2	5602
22850	7590	06/21/2006	EXAMINER	
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			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2145	

DATE MAILED: 06/21/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Detailed Action

This office action is in response to the correspondence received on March 10, 2006.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-30 and 32-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Prithviraj et al (US Pat No: US005987513A) in view of Bonnell et al (US Pat No: 5,655,081), hereafter referred to as Prithviraj and Bonnell, respectively.

1. With regards to claim 1, Prithviraj teaches through Bonnell, a computer-implemented remote device monitoring system, comprising: a local monitoring device configured (1) to collect information from a device connected to a first network using a network management protocol, and (2) to send the information to a monitor connected to a second network via a wide area network using a protocol; and the monitor configured to receive the information using the protocol and store the information in a digital repository connected to the second network, wherein the local monitoring device is configured to automatically request the information from the device, without receiving any instructions from the monitor requesting that the information be collected from the device; and wherein after initialization of the local monitoring device,

the local monitoring device is configured to automatically send the information to the monitor, without receiving any instructions from the monitor requesting that the collected information be sent

(Prithviraj teaches a design for remotely monitoring networks (column 2, lines 46-60, Prithviraj). It uses computers and browsers to perform these tasks over a WAN such as the Internet (claim 27, Prithviraj). It also uses SNMP (simple network management protocol) (column 3, line 60, Prithviraj). In most network monitoring/managing systems, such as Prithviraj's, each network device contains an agent (Figure 3A). These agents handle tasks on the client device side. The NMS (network management stations) send and receive data from these agents to communicate, monitor and manage with the client devices with the agents (column 7, lines 28-38, Prithviraj). Plus, the data is stored in a central station (column 3, lines 49-57, Prithviraj). Finally, Prithviraj's design allows for the information/display to be refreshed/updated periodically (equivalent to the claimed automatic request) (column 21, lines 33-38, Prithviraj). However, Prithviraj does not disclose local monitoring devices being autonomous in their receiving and sending actions.

Bonnell also teaches a network monitoring design. The design features agents (local monitoring devices) that are autonomous and are capable of managing and monitoring by themselves (column 6, lines 42-47, Bonnell). Bonnell further teaches how the agent information is automatically sent out through the network to the appropriate nodes to provide up to date network information (column 14, lines 39-46, Bonnell).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, during the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of Prithviraj with those of Bonnell, to provide an enterprise management system that will increase automation and efficiency (column 6, lines 20-22, Bonnell)).

2. With regards to claim 2, Prithviraj teaches through Bonnell, a system wherein the information comprises at least one of status information corresponding to the device and configuration information corresponding to the device

(Prithviraj's design allows for status information (column 3, lines 51-53, Prithviraj) and configuration management (column 4, line 3, Prithviraj). However, Prithviraj does not disclose local monitoring devices being autonomous in their receiving and sending actions.

Bonnell also teaches a network monitoring design. The design features agents (local monitoring devices) that are autonomous and are capable of managing and monitoring by themselves (column 6, lines 42-47, Bonnell). Bonnell further teaches how the agent information is automatically sent out through the network to the appropriate nodes to provide up to date network information (column 14, lines 39-46, Bonnell).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, during the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of Prithviraj with those of Bonnell, to provide an enterprise management system that will increase automation and efficiency (column 6, lines 20-22, Bonnell)).

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3. With regards to claim 3, Prithviraj teaches through Bonnell, a system wherein the device comprises a printer

(Prithviraj's design allows the management of network printers as well (column 10, lines 1-12, Prithviraj). However, Prithviraj does not disclose local monitoring devices being autonomous in their receiving and sending actions.

Bonnell also teaches a network monitoring design. The design features agents (local monitoring devices) that are autonomous and are capable of managing and monitoring by themselves (column 6, lines 42-47, Bonnell). Bonnell further teaches how the agent information is automatically sent out through the network to the appropriate nodes to provide up to date network information (column 14, lines 39-46, Bonnell).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, during the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of Prithviraj with those of Bonnell, to provide an enterprise management system that will increase automation and efficiency (column 6, lines 20-22, Bonnell)).

4. With regards to claim 4, Prithviraj teaches through Bonnell, a system wherein the status information comprises at least one of a low paper indicator, a no paper indicator, a low toner indicator, a no toner indicator, door open indicator, a jammed indicator, an offline indicator, and a service requested indicator

(Prithviraj's design allows for the administrator to obtain printer information such as out of paper information (column 10, lines 1-12, Prithviraj). It is inherent that the other claimed monitoring traits for the printer is also possible. However, Prithviraj does

not disclose local monitoring devices being autonomous in their receiving and sending actions.

Bonnell also teaches a network monitoring design. The design features agents (local monitoring devices) that are autonomous and are capable of managing and monitoring by themselves (column 6, lines 42-47, Bonnell). Bonnell further teaches how the agent information is automatically sent out through the network to the appropriate nodes to provide up to date network information (column 14, lines 39-46, Bonnell).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, during the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of Prithviraj with those of Bonnell, to provide an enterprise management system that will increase automation and efficiency (column 6, lines 20-22, Bonnell)).

5. With regards to claim 5, Prithviraj teaches through Bonnell, a system wherein the configuration information comprises at least one of a manufacturer of the device, a model of the device a serial number of the device, a media access control address, an Internet protocol address, a company name, a street address, a city, a state, a postal code, a physical location of the device, a contact person for the device, a phone number for the contact person, and an e-mail address for the contact person

(Each device within the network being managed/monitored has a MIB OID (management information base object identifier) associated with it (column 3, lines 4-17, Prithviraj)). These identifiers allow the administrator to obtain the claimed identifications.

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However, Prithviraj does not disclose local monitoring devices being autonomous in their receiving and sending actions.

Bonnell also teaches a network monitoring design. The design features agents (local monitoring devices) that are autonomous and are capable of managing and monitoring by themselves (column 6, lines 42-47, Bonnell). Bonnell further teaches how the agent information is automatically sent out through the network to the appropriate nodes to provide up to date network information (column 14, lines 39-46, Bonnell).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, during the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of Prithviraj with those of Bonnell, to provide an enterprise management system that will increase automation and efficiency (column 6, lines 20-22, Bonnell)).

6. With regards to claim 6, Prithviraj teaches through Bonnell, a system wherein at least a portion of the wide area network comprises the Internet

(Prithviraj's design uses wide area networks such as the Internet to perform its tasks over (claim 27, Prithviraj)). However, Prithviraj does not disclose local monitoring devices being autonomous in their receiving and sending actions.

Bonnell also teaches a network monitoring design. The design features agents (local monitoring devices) that are autonomous and are capable of managing and monitoring by themselves (column 6, lines 42-47, Bonnell). Bonnell further teaches how the agent information is automatically sent out through the network to the appropriate nodes to provide up to date network information (column 14, lines 39-46, Bonnell).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, during the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of Prithviraj with those of Bonnell, to provide an enterprise management system that will increase automation and efficiency (column 6, lines 20-22, Bonnell)).

7. With regards to claim 7, Prithviraj teaches through Bonnell, a system wherein the protocol comprises at least one of a simple mail transfer protocol and an Internet mail access protocol

(Prithviraj's design allows for emails (column 7, line 55, Prithviraj). Email systems employ SMTP. However, Prithviraj does not disclose local monitoring devices being autonomous in their receiving and sending actions.

Bonnell also teaches a network monitoring design. The design features agents (local monitoring devices) that are autonomous and are capable of managing and monitoring by themselves (column 6, lines 42-47, Bonnell). Bonnell further teaches how the agent information is automatically sent out through the network to the appropriate nodes to provide up to date network information (column 14, lines 39-46, Bonnell).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, during the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of Prithviraj with those of Bonnell, to provide an enterprise management system that will increase automation and efficiency (column 6, lines 20-22, Bonnell)).

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8. With regards to claim 8, Prithviraj teaches through Bonnell, a system wherein at least a portion of at least one of the first network and the second network comprises an intranet

(A network can be made up of multiple smaller networks, as shown in Prithviraj's design (Figure 1, Prithviraj). An intranet is still a network and no limitation is set by Prithviraj as to what types of networks can be handled by the design. Hence intranets are valid networks under Prithviraj's design disclosure. However, Prithviraj does not disclose local monitoring devices being autonomous in their receiving and sending actions.

Bonnell also teaches a network monitoring design. The design features agents (local monitoring devices) that are autonomous and are capable of managing and monitoring by themselves (column 6, lines 42-47, Bonnell). Bonnell further teaches how the agent information is automatically sent out through the network to the appropriate nodes to provide up to date network information (column 14, lines 39-46, Bonnell).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, during the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of Prithviraj with those of Bonnell, to provide an enterprise management system that will increase automation and efficiency (column 6, lines 20-22, Bonnell)).

9. With regards to claim 9, Prithviraj teaches through Bonnell, a system wherein the digital repository comprises a database

(Prithviraj's design allows for central storage, the data is stored in a central station (column 3, lines 49-57, Prithviraj). However, Prithviraj does not disclose local monitoring devices being autonomous in their receiving and sending actions.

Bonnell also teaches a network monitoring design. The design features agents (local monitoring devices) that are autonomous and are capable of managing and monitoring by themselves (column 6, lines 42-47, Bonnell). Bonnell further teaches how the agent information is automatically sent out through the network to the appropriate nodes to provide up to date network information (column 14, lines 39-46, Bonnell).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, during the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of Prithviraj with those of Bonnell, to provide an enterprise management system that will increase automation and efficiency (column 6, lines 20-22, Bonnell)).

10. With regards to claim 10, Prithviraj teaches through Bonnell, a system wherein the local monitoring device is further configured to store the collected information in a first digital repository connected to the first network, and to retrieve the information from the first digital repository

(Prithviraj's design allows for central storage, the data is stored in a central station (column 3, lines 49-57, Prithviraj). Prithviraj's design also allows for other storage means such as databases (column 24, lines 1-6, Prithviraj). In addition, it is inherent that information and instructions would be readable by computers within a

network management/monitoring system. However, Prithviraj does not disclose local monitoring devices being autonomous in their receiving and sending actions.

Bonnell also teaches a network monitoring design. The design features agents (local monitoring devices) that are autonomous and are capable of managing and monitoring by themselves (column 6, lines 42-47, Bonnell). Bonnell further teaches how the agent information is automatically sent out through the network to the appropriate nodes to provide up to date network information (column 14, lines 39-46, Bonnell).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, during the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of Prithviraj with those of Bonnell, to provide an enterprise management system that will increase automation and efficiency (column 6, lines 20-22, Bonnell)).

11. With regards to claim 11, Prithviraj teaches through Bonnell, a system wherein the digital repository comprises a database

(Prithviraj's design allows for central storage, the data is stored in a central station (column 3, lines 49-57, Prithviraj). Prithviraj's design also allows for other storage means such as databases (column 24, lines 1-6, Prithviraj). However, Prithviraj does not disclose local monitoring devices being autonomous in their receiving and sending actions.

Bonnell also teaches a network monitoring design. The design features agents (local monitoring devices) that are autonomous and are capable of managing and monitoring by themselves (column 6, lines 42-47, Bonnell). Bonnell further teaches how

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the agent information is automatically sent out through the network to the appropriate nodes to provide up to date network information (column 14, lines 39-46, Bonnell).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, during the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of Prithviraj with those of Bonnell, to provide an enterprise management system that will increase automation and efficiency (column 6, lines 20-22, Bonnell)).

12. With regards to claim 12, Prithviraj teaches through Bonnell, a system wherein the local monitoring device comprises a computer readable medium encoded with processor readable instructions comprises at least one of a dynamic link library, a static link library, a script, a JAVA class, a C++ class, and a C library routine

(Prithviraj's design allows for a number of languages such as JAVA (column 6, line 9, Prithviraj) and C (column 20, line 6, Prithviraj). It is inherent that a number of languages are applicable and that libraries and .dll files are used. However, Prithviraj does not disclose local monitoring devices being autonomous in their receiving and sending actions.

Bonnell also teaches a network monitoring design. The design features agents (local monitoring devices) that are autonomous and are capable of managing and monitoring by themselves (column 6, lines 42-47, Bonnell). Bonnell further teaches how the agent information is automatically sent out through the network to the appropriate nodes to provide up to date network information (column 14, lines 39-46, Bonnell).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, during the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of Prithviraj with those of Bonnell, to provide an enterprise management system that will increase automation and efficiency (column 6, lines 20-22, Bonnell)).

13. With regards to claim 13, Prithviraj teaches through Bonnell, a system wherein the network management protocol comprises a simple network management protocol (Prithviraj's design uses SNMP (simple network management protocol) (column 3, line 60, Prithviraj)). However, Prithviraj does not disclose local monitoring devices being autonomous in their receiving and sending actions.

Bonnell also teaches a network monitoring design. The design features agents (local monitoring devices) that are autonomous and are capable of managing and monitoring by themselves (column 6, lines 42-47, Bonnell). Bonnell further teaches how the agent information is automatically sent out through the network to the appropriate nodes to provide up to date network information (column 14, lines 39-46, Bonnell).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, during the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of Prithviraj with those of Bonnell, to provide an enterprise management system that will increase automation and efficiency (column 6, lines 20-22, Bonnell)).

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14. With regards to claim 14, Prithviraj teaches through Bonnell, a system wherein the remote monitor is further configured to store the information in the digital repository through an open database connectivity interface

(Prithviraj's design allows for central storage, the data is stored in a central station (column 3, lines 49-57, Prithviraj). Prithviraj's design also allows for other storage means such as databases (column 24, lines 1-6, Prithviraj). Such storage means have open interfaces. However, Prithviraj does not disclose local monitoring devices being autonomous in their receiving and sending actions.

Bonnell also teaches a network monitoring design. The design features agents (local monitoring devices) that are autonomous and are capable of managing and monitoring by themselves (column 6, lines 42-47, Bonnell). Bonnell further teaches how the agent information is automatically sent out through the network to the appropriate nodes to provide up to date network information (column 14, lines 39-46, Bonnell).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, during the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of Prithviraj with those of Bonnell, to provide an enterprise management system that will increase automation and efficiency (column 6, lines 20-22, Bonnell)).

15. With regards to claim 15, Prithviraj teaches through Bonnell, a system wherein the local monitoring device is further configured to store the information in the first digital repository through an open database connectivity interface

(Prithviraj's design allows for central storage, the data is stored in a central station (column 3, lines 49-57, Prithviraj). Prithviraj's design also allows for other storage means such as databases (column 24, lines 1-6, Prithviraj). Such storage means have open interfaces. However, Prithviraj does not disclose local monitoring devices being autonomous in their receiving and sending actions.

Bonnell also teaches a network monitoring design. The design features agents (local monitoring devices) that are autonomous and are capable of managing and monitoring by themselves (column 6, lines 42-47, Bonnell). Bonnell further teaches how the agent information is automatically sent out through the network to the appropriate nodes to provide up to date network information (column 14, lines 39-46, Bonnell).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, during the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of Prithviraj with those of Bonnell, to provide an enterprise management system that will increase automation and efficiency (column 6, lines 20-22, Bonnell)).

16. With regards to claim 16, Prithviraj teaches through Bonnell, a method for remotely monitoring network devices, comprising: collecting, by a local monitoring device information from a device connected to a first network using a network management protocol; sending, by the local monitoring device, the information collected in the collecting step to a monitor connected to a second network via a wide area network using a protocol; receiving, by the monitor, the information sent in the sending step; and storing the information received in the receiving step in a digital repository

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connected to the second network, wherein the collecting step comprises automatically requesting the information from the device, without receiving any instructions from the monitor requesting that the information be collected from the device; and wherein the sending step comprises automatically sending the information to the monitor, after initialization of the local monitoring device, without receiving any instructions from the monitor requesting that the collected information be sent

(Prithviraj teaches a design for remotely monitoring networks (column 2, lines 46-60, Prithviraj). It uses computers and browsers to perform these tasks over a WAN such as the Internet (claim 27, Prithviraj). It also uses SNMP (simple network management protocol) (column 3, line 60, Prithviraj). In most network monitoring/managing systems, such as Prithviraj's, each network device contains an agent (Figure 3A). These agents handle tasks on the client device side. The NMS (network management stations) send and receive data from these agents to communicate, monitor and manage with the client devices with the agents (column 7, lines 28-38, Prithviraj). In addition, a network can be made up of multiple smaller networks, as shown in Prithviraj's design (Figure 1, Prithviraj). Plus, the data is stored in a central station (column 3, lines 49-57, Prithviraj). Finally, Prithviraj's design allows for the information/display to be refreshed/updated periodically (equivalent to the claimed automatic request) (column 21, lines 33-38, Prithviraj). However, Prithviraj does not disclose local monitoring devices being autonomous in their receiving and sending actions.

Bonnell also teaches a network monitoring design. The design features agents (local monitoring devices) that are autonomous and are capable of managing and monitoring by themselves (column 6, lines 42-47, Bonnell). Bonnell further teaches how the agent information is automatically sent out through the network to the appropriate nodes to provide up to date network information (column 14, lines 39-46, Bonnell).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, during the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of Prithviraj with those of Bonnell, to provide an enterprise management system that will increase automation and efficiency (column 6, lines 20-22, Bonnell)).

17. With regards to claim 17, Prithviraj teaches through Bonnell, a method wherein the information comprises at least one of status information corresponding to the device and configuration information corresponding to the device .

(Prithviraj's design allows for status information (column 3, lines 51-53, Prithviraj) and configuration management (column 4, line 3, Prithviraj). However, Prithviraj does not disclose local monitoring devices being autonomous in their receiving and sending actions.

Bonnell also teaches a network monitoring design. The design features agents (local monitoring devices) that are autonomous and are capable of managing and monitoring by themselves (column 6, lines 42-47, Bonnell). Bonnell further teaches how the agent information is automatically sent out through the network to the appropriate nodes to provide up to date network information (column 14, lines 39-46, Bonnell).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, during the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of Prithviraj with those of Bonnell, to provide an enterprise management system that will increase automation and efficiency (column 6, lines 20-22, Bonnell)).

18. With regards to claim 18, Prithviraj teaches through Bonnell, a method wherein the device comprises a printer

(Prithviraj's design allows the management of network printers as well (column 10, lines 1-12, Prithviraj)). However, Prithviraj does not disclose local monitoring devices being autonomous in their receiving and sending actions.

Bonnell also teaches a network monitoring design. The design features agents (local monitoring devices) that are autonomous and are capable of managing and monitoring by themselves (column 6, lines 42-47, Bonnell). Bonnell further teaches how the agent information is automatically sent out through the network to the appropriate nodes to provide up to date network information (column 14, lines 39-46, Bonnell).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, during the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of Prithviraj with those of Bonnell, to provide an enterprise management system that will increase automation and efficiency (column 6, lines 20-22, Bonnell)).

19. With regards to claim 19, Prithviraj teaches through Bonnell, a method wherein at least a portion of the wide area network comprises the Internet

(Prithviraj's design uses wide area networks such as the Internet to perform its tasks over (claim 27, Prithviraj). However, Prithviraj does not disclose local monitoring devices being autonomous in their receiving and sending actions.

Bonnell also teaches a network monitoring design. The design features agents (local monitoring devices) that are autonomous and are capable of managing and monitoring by themselves (column 6, lines 42-47, Bonnell). Bonnell further teaches how the agent information is automatically sent out through the network to the appropriate nodes to provide up to date network information (column 14, lines 39-46, Bonnell).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, during the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of Prithviraj with those of Bonnell, to provide an enterprise management system that will increase automation and efficiency (column 6, lines 20-22, Bonnell)).

20. With regards to claim 20, Prithviraj teaches through Bonnell, a method wherein the network management protocol comprises a simple network management protocol wherein the network management protocol comprises a simple network management protocol

(Prithviraj's design uses SNMP (simple network management protocol) (column 3, line 60, Prithviraj). However, Prithviraj does not disclose local monitoring devices being autonomous in their receiving and sending actions.

Bonnell also teaches a network monitoring design. The design features agents (local monitoring devices) that are autonomous and are capable of managing and

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monitoring by themselves (column 6, lines 42-47, Bonnell). Bonnell further teaches how the agent information is automatically sent out through the network to the appropriate nodes to provide up to date network information (column 14, lines 39-46, Bonnell).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, during the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of Prithviraj with those of Bonnell, to provide an enterprise management system that will increase automation and efficiency (column 6, lines 20-22, Bonnell)).

21. With regards to claim 21, Prithviraj teaches through Bonnell, a method wherein the protocol comprises at least one of a simple mail transfer protocol and an Internet access protocol

(Prithviraj's design allows for emails (column 7, line 55, Prithviraj). Email systems employ SMTP. However, Prithviraj does not disclose local monitoring devices being autonomous in their receiving and sending actions.

Bonnell also teaches a network monitoring design. The design features agents (local monitoring devices) that are autonomous and are capable of managing and monitoring by themselves (column 6, lines 42-47, Bonnell). Bonnell further teaches how the agent information is automatically sent out through the network to the appropriate nodes to provide up to date network information (column 14, lines 39-46, Bonnell).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, during the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of Prithviraj with those of Bonnell, to

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provide an enterprise management system that will increase automation and efficiency (column 6, lines 20-22, Bonnell)).

22. With regards to claim 22, Prithviraj teaches through Bonnell, a method wherein the digital repository comprises a database

(Prithviraj's design allows for central storage, the data is stored in a central station (column 3, lines 49-57, Prithviraj). Prithviraj's design also allows for other storage means such as databases (column 24, lines 1-6, Prithviraj). However, Prithviraj does not disclose local monitoring devices being autonomous in their receiving and sending actions.

Bonnell also teaches a network monitoring design. The design features agents (local monitoring devices) that are autonomous and are capable of managing and monitoring by themselves (column 6, lines 42-47, Bonnell). Bonnell further teaches how the agent information is automatically sent out through the network to the appropriate nodes to provide up to date network information (column 14, lines 39-46, Bonnell).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, during the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of Prithviraj with those of Bonnell, to provide an enterprise management system that will increase automation and efficiency (column 6, lines 20-22, Bonnell)).

23. With regards to claim 23, Prithviraj teaches through Bonnell, a method further comprising: storing the collected information collected in the in the collecting step in a

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first digital repository; and retrieving the information stored in the step of storing the collected information step from the first digital repository

(Prithviraj's design allows for central storage, the data is stored in a central station (column 3, lines 49-57, Prithviraj). Prithviraj's design also allows for other storage means such as databases (column 24, lines 1-6, Prithviraj). However, Prithviraj does not disclose local monitoring devices being autonomous in their receiving and sending actions.

Bonnell also teaches a network monitoring design. The design features agents (local monitoring devices) that are autonomous and are capable of managing and monitoring by themselves (column 6, lines 42-47, Bonnell). Bonnell further teaches how the agent information is automatically sent out through the network to the appropriate nodes to provide up to date network information (column 14, lines 39-46, Bonnell).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, during the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of Prithviraj with those of Bonnell, to provide an enterprise management system that will increase automation and efficiency (column 6, lines 20-22, Bonnell)).

24. With regards to claim 24, Prithviraj teaches through Bonnell, a method wherein the first digital repository comprises a database

(Prithviraj's design allows for central storage, the data is stored in a central station (column 3, lines 49-57, Prithviraj). Prithviraj's design also allows for other storage means such as databases (column 24, lines 1-6, Prithviraj). However, Prithviraj

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does not disclose local monitoring devices being autonomous in their receiving and sending actions.

Bonnell also teaches a network monitoring design. The design features agents (local monitoring devices) that are autonomous and are capable of managing and monitoring by themselves (column 6, lines 42-47, Bonnell). Bonnell further teaches how the agent information is automatically sent out through the network to the appropriate nodes to provide up to date network information (column 14, lines 39-46, Bonnell).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, during the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of Prithviraj with those of Bonnell, to provide an enterprise management system that will increase automation and efficiency (column 6, lines 20-22, Bonnell)).

25. With regards to claim 25, Prithviraj teaches through Bonnell, a computer program product, comprising: a computer storage medium; and a computer program code mechanism embedded in the computer storage medium for causing a computer to remotely monitor a device connected to a first network with a monitor connected to a second network, the computer program code mechanism comprising: a first computer code device configured to collect information from the device over the first network using a network management protocol, and a second computer code device configured to send the collected information to the monitor via a wide area network using a protocol, wherein the first computer code device is configured to automatically request the information from the device, without receiving any instructions from the monitor

requesting that the information be collected from the device; wherein, after initialization of the local monitoring device, the second computer code device is configured to automatically send the collected information to the monitor, without receiving any instructions from the monitor requesting that the collected information be sent.

(Prithviraj teaches a design for remotely monitoring networks (column 2, lines 46-60, Prithviraj). It uses computers and browsers to perform these tasks over a WAN such as the Internet (claim 27, Prithviraj). It also uses SNMP (simple network management protocol) (column 3, line 60, Prithviraj). In most network monitoring/managing systems, such as Prithviraj's, each network device contains an agent (Figure 3A). These agents handle tasks on the client device side. The NMS (network management stations) send and receive data from these agents to communicate, monitor and manage with the client devices with the agents (column 7, lines 28-38, Prithviraj). Plus, the data is stored in a central station (column 3, lines 49-57, Prithviraj). Finally, Prithviraj's design allows for the information/display to be refreshed/updated periodically (equivalent to the claimed automatic request) (column 21, lines 33-38, Prithviraj). However, Prithviraj does not disclose local monitoring devices being autonomous in their receiving and sending actions.

Bonnell also teaches a network monitoring design. The design features agents (local monitoring devices) that are autonomous and are capable of managing and monitoring by themselves (column 6, lines 42-47, Bonnell). Bonnell further teaches how the agent information is automatically sent out through the network to the appropriate nodes to provide up to date network information (column 14, lines 39-46, Bonnell).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, during the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of Prithviraj with those of Bonnell, to provide an enterprise management system that will increase automation and efficiency (column 6, lines 20-22, Bonnell)).

26. With regards to claim 26, Prithviraj teaches through Bonnell, a computer program product wherein the information comprises at least one of status information corresponding to the device and configuration information corresponding to the device (Prithviraj's design allows for status information (column 3, lines 51-53, Prithviraj) and configuration management (column 4, line 3, Prithviraj). However, Prithviraj does not disclose local monitoring devices being autonomous in their receiving and sending actions.

Bonnell also teaches a network monitoring design. The design features agents (local monitoring devices) that are autonomous and are capable of managing and monitoring by themselves (column 6, lines 42-47, Bonnell). Bonnell further teaches how the agent information is automatically sent out through the network to the appropriate nodes to provide up to date network information (column 14, lines 39-46, Bonnell).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, during the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of Prithviraj with those of Bonnell, to provide an enterprise management system that will increase automation and efficiency (column 6, lines 20-22, Bonnell)).

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27. With regards to claim 27, Prithviraj teaches through Bonnell, a computer program product wherein the device comprises a printer

(Prithviraj's design allows the management of network printers as well (column 10, lines 1-12, Prithviraj). However, Prithviraj does not disclose local monitoring devices being autonomous in their receiving and sending actions.

Bonnell also teaches a network monitoring design. The design features agents (local monitoring devices) that are autonomous and are capable of managing and monitoring by themselves (column 6, lines 42-47, Bonnell). Bonnell further teaches how the agent information is automatically sent out through the network to the appropriate nodes to provide up to date network information (column 14, lines 39-46, Bonnell).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, during the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of Prithviraj with those of Bonnell, to provide an enterprise management system that will increase automation and efficiency (column 6, lines 20-22, Bonnell)).

28. With regards to claim 28, Prithviraj teaches through Bonnell, a computer program product wherein at least a portion of the wide area network comprises the Internet

(Prithviraj's design uses wide area networks such as the Internet to perform its tasks over (claim 27, Prithviraj). However, Prithviraj does not disclose local monitoring devices being autonomous in their receiving and sending actions.

Bonnell also teaches a network monitoring design. The design features agents (local monitoring devices) that are autonomous and are capable of managing and

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monitoring by themselves (column 6, lines 42-47, Bonnell). Bonnell further teaches how the agent information is automatically sent out through the network to the appropriate nodes to provide up to date network information (column 14, lines 39-46, Bonnell).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, during the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of Prithviraj with those of Bonnell, to provide an enterprise management system that will increase automation and efficiency (column 6, lines 20-22, Bonnell)).

29. With regards to claim 29, Prithviraj teaches through Bonnell, a computer program product wherein the network management protocol comprises a simple network management protocol

(Prithviraj's design uses SNMP (simple network management protocol) (column 3, line 60, Prithviraj)). However, Prithviraj does not disclose local monitoring devices being autonomous in their receiving and sending actions.

Bonnell also teaches a network monitoring design. The design features agents (local monitoring devices) that are autonomous and are capable of managing and monitoring by themselves (column 6, lines 42-47, Bonnell). Bonnell further teaches how the agent information is automatically sent out through the network to the appropriate nodes to provide up to date network information (column 14, lines 39-46, Bonnell).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, during the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of Prithviraj with those of Bonnell, to

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provide an enterprise management system that will increase automation and efficiency (column 6, lines 20-22, Bonnell)).

30. With regards to claim 30, Prithviraj teaches through Bonnell, a computer program product wherein the protocol comprises at least one of a simple mail transfer protocol and an Internet access protocol

(Prithviraj's design uses both the Internet (claim 27, Prithviraj) and email (column 7, line 55, Prithviraj). Protocols must be followed for any network design such as the Internet and email, and hence the claimed traits are inherent. However, Prithviraj does not disclose local monitoring devices being autonomous in their receiving and sending actions.

Bonnell also teaches a network monitoring design. The design features agents (local monitoring devices) that are autonomous and are capable of managing and monitoring by themselves (column 6, lines 42-47, Bonnell). Bonnell further teaches how the agent information is automatically sent out through the network to the appropriate nodes to provide up to date network information (column 14, lines 39-46, Bonnell).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, during the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of Prithviraj with those of Bonnell, to provide an enterprise management system that will increase automation and efficiency (column 6, lines 20-22, Bonnell)).

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31. With regards to claim 32, Prithviraj teaches through Bonnell, a computer program product wherein the computer program code mechanism further comprises: a third computer code device configured to store the information collected by the first computer code device in a first digital repository, and a fourth computer code device configured to retrieve the information from the first digital repository

(Prithviraj's design allows for central storage, the data is stored in a central station (column 3, lines 49-57, Prithviraj). Prithviraj's design also allows for other storage means such as databases (column 24, lines 1-6, Prithviraj). However, Prithviraj does not disclose local monitoring devices being autonomous in their receiving and sending actions.

Bonnell also teaches a network monitoring design. The design features agents (local monitoring devices) that are autonomous and are capable of managing and monitoring by themselves (column 6, lines 42-47, Bonnell). Bonnell further teaches how the agent information is automatically sent out through the network to the appropriate nodes to provide up to date network information (column 14, lines 39-46, Bonnell).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, during the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of Prithviraj with those of Bonnell, to provide an enterprise management system that will increase automation and efficiency (column 6, lines 20-22, Bonnell)).

32. With regards to claim 33, Prithviraj teaches through Bonnell, a computer program product wherein the first digital repository comprises a database

(Prithviraj's design allows for central storage, the data is stored in a central station (column 3, lines 49-57, Prithviraj). Prithviraj's design also allows for other storage means such as databases (column 24, lines 1-6, Prithviraj). However, Prithviraj does not disclose local monitoring devices being autonomous in their receiving and sending actions.

Bonnell also teaches a network monitoring design. The design features agents (local monitoring devices) that are autonomous and are capable of managing and monitoring by themselves (column 6, lines 42-47, Bonnell). Bonnell further teaches how the agent information is automatically sent out through the network to the appropriate nodes to provide up to date network information (column 14, lines 39-46, Bonnell).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, during the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of Prithviraj with those of Bonnell, to provide an enterprise management system that will increase automation and efficiency (column 6, lines 20-22, Bonnell)).

33. With regards to claim 34, Prithviraj teaches through Bonnell, a system for remotely monitoring network devices, comprising: means for collecting information from a device connected to a first network using a network management protocol; means for sending the information collected by the means for collecting to a monitor connected to a second network via a wide area network using a protocol; means for receiving, by the monitor, the information sent by the means for sending; and means for storing the information received by the means for receiving in a digital repository connected to the

second network, wherein the means for collecting comprises means for automatically requesting the information from the device, without receiving any instructions from the monitor requesting that the information be collected from the device; wherein, after initialization of the local monitoring device, the means for sending comprises means for automatically sending the information to the monitor, without receiving any instructions from the monitor requesting that the collected information be sent.

(Prithviraj teaches a design for remotely monitoring networks (column 2, lines 46-60, Prithviraj). It uses computers and browsers to perform these tasks over a WAN such as the Internet (claim 27, Prithviraj). It also uses SNMP (simple network management protocol) (column 3, line 60, Prithviraj). In most network monitoring/managing systems, such as Prithviraj's, each network device contains an agent (Figure 3A). These agents handle tasks on the client device side. The NMS (network management stations) send and receive data from these agents to communicate, monitor and manage with the client devices with the agents (column 7, lines 28-38, Prithviraj). Plus, the data is stored in a central station (column 3, lines 49-57, Prithviraj). Finally, Prithviraj's design allows for the information/display to be refreshed/updated periodically (equivalent to the claimed automatic request) (column 21, lines 33-38, Prithviraj). However, Prithviraj does not disclose local monitoring devices being autonomous in their receiving and sending actions.

Bonnell also teaches a network monitoring design. The design features agents (local monitoring devices) that are autonomous and are capable of managing and monitoring by themselves (column 6, lines 42-47, Bonnell). Bonnell further teaches how

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the agent information is automatically sent out through the network to the appropriate nodes to provide up to date network information (column 14, lines 39-46, Bonnell).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, during the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of Prithviraj with those of Bonnell, to provide an enterprise management system that will increase automation and efficiency (column 6, lines 20-22, Bonnell)).

34. With regards to claim 35, Prithviraj teaches through Bonnell, a system wherein: the network management protocol is a simple network management protocol; and the protocol is at least one of a simple mail transfer protocol and an Internet mail access protocol

(Prithviraj's design uses SNMP (simple network management protocol) (column 3, line 60, Prithviraj)). In addition, Prithviraj's design allows for emails (column 7, line 55, Prithviraj). Email systems employ SMTP. However, Prithviraj does not disclose local monitoring devices being autonomous in their receiving and sending actions.

Bonnell also teaches a network monitoring design. The design features agents (local monitoring devices) that are autonomous and are capable of managing and monitoring by themselves (column 6, lines 42-47, Bonnell). Bonnell further teaches how the agent information is automatically sent out through the network to the appropriate nodes to provide up to date network information (column 14, lines 39-46, Bonnell).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art, during the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of Prithviraj with those of Bonnell, to

provide an enterprise management system that will increase automation and efficiency (column 6, lines 20-22, Bonnell)).

Response to Remarks

The amendment received on March 10, 2006 has been carefully examined but is not deemed fully persuasive. The claim amendments and remarks focus towards the automatic sending capabilities of the local monitoring devices. In addition, the remarks also focus on the automatic receiving capabilities of the local monitoring devices. With respect to these claim features, the examiner refers to the Bonnell prior art. Bonnell's design features autonomous agents (local monitoring devices) (column 6, lines 42—47, Bonnell). Each agent is able to carry on a dialog of communication with manager software systems via the network (column 7, lines 8-14, Bonnell). This means that the agents are able to both receive and send data automatically. Furthermore, Bonnell teaches how the agent information is automatically sent out through the network to the appropriate nodes to provide up to date network information (column 14, lines 39-46, Bonnell). In view of such teachings within the Bonnell prior art, the examiner must stand by his rejections.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Azizul Choudhury whose telephone number is (571) 272-3909. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jason Cardone can be reached on (571) 272-3933. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

AC



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